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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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Sheet

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of

6

Complete If Known

Application Number	10/647,119
Filing Date	August 25, 2003
First Named Inventor	Michael R. VIOLENTE et al.
Group Art Unit	3737
Examiner Name	Unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	32286-192289

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date
	3,695,921	10/3/72	SHEPHERD, et al.			
	4,100,309	7/11/78	MICKLUS, et al.			
	4,345,602	8/24/82	YOSHIMURA, et al.			
	4,373,009	2/8/83	WINN			
	4,401,124	8/30/83	GUESS, et al.			
	4,456,017	6/26/84	MILES			
	4,459,317	7/10/84	LAMBERT			
	4,585,666	4/29/86	LAMBERT			
	4,589,873	5/20/86	SCHWARTZ			
	4,642,267	2/10/87	CREASY, et al.			
	4,682,607	7/28/87	VAILLANCOURT			
	4,721,117	1/26/88	MAR, et al.			
	4,729,914	3/8/88	KLIMENT, et al.			
	4,739,768	4/26/88	ENGELSON			
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	4,835,003	5/30/89	BECKER			
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✓	5,061,254	10/29/91	KARAKELLE, et al.			
	5,069,226	12/3/91	YAMAUCHI, et al.			

Examiner

Date Considered

3-22-06

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	5,201,314	4/13/93	BOSLEY, et al.			
	5,331,027	7/19/94	WHITBOURNE			
	5,452,726	9/26/95	BURMEISTER, et al.			
	5,370,901	12/94	TOURNIER et al.			
	5,580,575	12/96	UNGER et al.			
	5,853,745	12/29/98	DAROUICHE			
	5,824,048	10/20/98	TUCH			
	5,120,770	06/09/1992	DOYLE et al.			
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	3,605,750	09/1971	SHERIDAN et al.			
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	4,490,139	12/1984	HUIZENGA et al.			
	4,567,896	02/1986	BARNEA et al.			

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	04070965 A1	10/7/90	EPO			
	90/03768	4/19/90	WIPO			

OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

✓	Current Problems in Diagnostic Radiology, Percutaneous Transluminal Angioplasty, Charles J. Tegtmeyer, Vol. XVI, No. 2, March/April 1987
✓	McGraw-Hill Encyclopedia of Science & Technology, 6 th Edition, (1987) C.R. Martinson, et al.; Surface Coating, Vol. 18, p. 7
✓	Interpenetrating Polymer Networks, Daniel Klempner, (1978)
✓	Endovascular Surgery, Wesley S. Moore, M.D., et al. (1989 W.B. Saunders Company), pp. 157-159

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
		4,572,203		FEINSTEIN	02/1986	
		4,582,061		FRY	04/1986	
		4,681,119		RASOR et al.	07/1987	
		4,697,595		BREYER et al.	11/1987	
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		4,869,259		ELKINS	09/1989	
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Examiner Signature		Date Considered	3-22-06
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Sheet 4 of 6

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Application Number	10/647,119
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Group Art Unit	3737
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Attorney Docket Number	32286-192289

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OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
✓		Rompp Chemie Lexicon, Georg Thieme Verlag, Stuttgart, New York, 9. Auflage, 1992, Vol. 5 (Pi-S), pp. 4016 and 3575-3576. ("Schaumstoffe")	
		Rompp Chemie Lexicon, Georg Thieme Verlag, Stuttgart, New York, 9. Auflage, 1992, Vol. 6 (T-Z), p. 4688. ("Treibmittel")	
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		Barbara A. CARROLL et al., "Gelatin Encapsulated Nitrogen Micro-Bubbles as Ultrasound Contrast Agents", Investigative Radiology, Vol. '15, May-June 1980, pp. 260-266.	
		Jonathan OPHIR et al., "Contrast Agents for Diagnostic Ultrasound", Ultrasound Medicine and Biology, Vol. 15, No. 4, 1989, pp. 319-333.	
✓		K.J. PARKER, et al., "A Particular Contrast Agent With Potential For UltraSound Imaging Of Liver," UltraSound in Med. & Biology, Vol. 13, No. 9, March 1987, pp. 555-568	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
✓		5,383,466		PARTIKA	01/1995	
		5,409,688		QUAY	04/1995	
		5,454,373		KOGER et al.	10/1995	
		5,490,521		DAVIS et al.	02/1996	
		5,676,925		KLAVENESS et al.	10/1997	
		5,690,908		DEUTSCH	11/1997	
✓		5,120,770		DOYLE et al.	06/09/1992	

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

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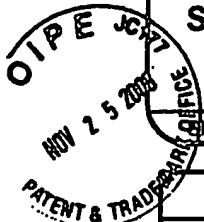
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Sheet

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OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

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DRJ		Diane BERGIN et al., "Echogenic Polymer Coating: Does It Improve Needle Visualization in Sonographically Guided Biopsy?", AJR: 178, May: 2002. pp. 1188-1190,	
		Ronald H. GOTTLIEB, et al., "Coating Agent Permits Improved Visualization of Biopsy Needles During Sonography", AJR 171, November: 1998. pp. 1301-1302.	
		William C. CULP, et al., "Relative Ultrasonographic Echogenicity of Standard, Dimpled, and Polymeric-coated Needles", JVIR, Volume 11, March 2000, pp. 351-358.	
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		M. VIANTE et al., "Enhanced Ultrasound Visibility of Medical Devices", Society for Biomaterials, San Diego, CA. April 22-25, 1998.	
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		Lisa A., CARDON et al., "Novel Polymer Coating Improves Needle Visualization", Abstract Presented at the American Heart Association 71st Scientific Session: 1998.	
		William C. CULP et al., "A New Echogenic Needle Coating to Aid Ultrasonographic Guidance", Abstract Presented at SCVR 24th Annual Scientific Meeting: 1999.	
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		John ZIMMERMAN et al., "Structural and Chemical Analysis of Coating Used to Enhance Ultrasonic Imaging", Presented at the Sixth World Biomaterials Congress, May: 2000.	
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		STS Bio Polymers, Inc., Press Release, "STS Biopolymers Wins Gold Award for ECHO-COAT® Ultrasound Needles", June 25, 2001.	
		STS Bio Polymers, Inc., Press Release, "STS Biopolymers Wins Medical Design Excellence Award for ECHO-COAT® Ultrasound Needles", May 15, 2001.	
✓		STS Bio Polymers, Inc., Press Release, "Enhanced Needle Visualization For Breast Localizations Under Ultrasound Guidance", May 15, 2001.	

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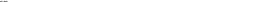
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Sheet	6	of	6
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